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*Smallpox on steamship Orozimbo at Vineyard Haven, Mass.*VINEYARD HAVEN, MASS., *September 24, 1903.*

SIR: Referring to my telegram of September 22, I have the honor to report that on September 21 instant a seaman affected with smallpox, in about the sixth day of the eruption, presented himself for treatment at this hospital.

The seaman was from the American schooner *Orozimbo*, which vessel had arrived at this port on the morning of September 19 and since that time had been lying at anchor in Vineyard Haven Bay awaiting favorable weather to proceed on her return trip from New Haven, Conn., to Calais, Me. The vessel left Calais on August 29, and after a voyage of ten days arrived at New Haven. She remained at New Haven seven days and then proceeded to this port. The seaman began to feel ill about September 12, while at New Haven, and the eruption appeared on September 15, a short while after leaving New Haven. Taking the incubation period of smallpox as fourteen days, it appears that the disease was contracted undoubtedly at Calais, Me. Against the theory that the disease was contracted aboard the vessel is the fact that the other four members of the vessel's crew, one of whom had never been vaccinated and none of whom had been vaccinated recently, have remained unaffected to date.

Fortunately, when the seaman arrived at the hospital the case was diagnosed at the door and did not gain entrance to the hospital building.

The local board of health was notified at once and requested to take charge of the case, it being explained to the board that the hospital grounds were not sufficiently extensive to enable me to isolate the case so that not only the patients in the hospital but also citizens living near by the reservation would not be exposed to the disease.

The local board took charge of the case, returned him to the vessel, and placed the vessel in strict quarantine.

The town of Vineyard Haven has no pesthouse and it was the intention of the board to send the vessel to the Boston quarantine station for treatment; but the local board, on requesting the State board of health to authorize them to send the vessel to the Boston quarantine station, were informed that the quarantine officials were unwilling to have the vessel sent there.

The Vineyard Haven board of health has not yet decided whether to continue to hold the vessel in quarantine with the cases on board until the disease exhausts itself or to make some arrangement for the isolation and treatment of the case ashore and to disinfect the vessel. At the meetings of the members of the board, to which I have been invited to confer with them, I have strongly advised the latter course.

At the request of the board of health, I visited the vessel yesterday

and vaccinated the crew. The patient is doing well, and although he has a moderately severe attack of discrete smallpox apparently stands a good chance to recover.

I have vaccinated the entire personnel of this station and will make requisition on the Bureau for a supply of vaccine virus, so that I will be able to vaccinate such seamen as come to the hospital for that purpose.

Respectfully,

L. L. LUMSDEN,
Passed Assistant Surgeon.

NOTE.—The State board of health authorized the sending of the *Orozimbo* to the Boston quarantine station, September 25. The case of smallpox was doing well and the other members of the vessel's crew were well at that date.

Inspection service, Mexican border.

El Paso, Tex.—Acting Assistant Surgeon Alexander reports, September 26, 1903, as follows: Week ended September 26, 1903, Mexican Central passengers inspected, 236; Rio Grande and Pacific passengers inspected, 29; Mexican immigrants inspected, 111; special inspection Syrian immigrants, 3; soiled linen imported for laundry inspected, 419 pieces; special inspection of 5 passengers—2 from Monterey and 3 from Vera Cruz, Mexico; soiled linen imported for laundry disinfected, 419 pieces; disinfection of cages containing parrots imported from Vera Cruz, 2; disinfection of 2 trunks and packages of baggage of 2 passengers from Tampico; detention of 5 passengers from Vera Cruz and Monterey, to complete requisite time of being away from point of foci; vaccination of immigrant children, 6.

Conditions at Laredo and measures for preventing introduction into and spread of yellow fever in Texas.

Quarantine at Matamoras effective—Quarantine at Brownsville advised.

BROWNSVILLE, TEX., *September 29, 1903.*

FRANCIS B. LOOMIS,

Assistant Secretary of State, Washington:

Have inspected Mexican quarantine, this district. Matamoras well protected by civil and military authorities. Brownsville should establish immediate and rigid quarantine against Laredo, Tex. City and county funds insufficient. Citizens earnestly request that I advise Department they will appreciate all Federal aid possible.

P. MERRILL GRIFFITH,
United States Consul at Matamoras.